

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as set out in the Listing of Claims below, which replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

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Listing of Claims:

1-5. (Canceled)

- 10 6. (Previously presented) A thickened oil composition which comprises
- (1) an oil, and
 - (2) uniformly dispersed in the oil as a crystallized solid, a side chain crystalline (SCC) polymer which
 - (a) is substantially free of fluorine atoms, carboxylic acid groups,
15 carboxylic acid salt groups, sulfonic acid groups, sulfonic acid salt groups, amido groups, pyrrolidino groups and imidazole groups;
and
 - (b) contains 10-30% by weight of repeating units containing hydroxyl groups.

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7. (Previously presented) A thickened oil composition which comprises
- (1) an oil, and
 - (2) uniformly dispersed in the oil as a crystallized solid, a side chain crystalline (SCC) polymer which
 - (a) has a crystalline melting point, T_p , of 40-50 °C.;
 - (b) consists essentially of
 - (i) 70-99% by weight of repeating units derived from at
25 least one n-alkyl acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the n-alkyl group contains 16 to 22 carbon atoms,
 - (ii) 1-30% by weight of repeating units derived from at
30 least one acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the ester

group contains a hydroxyl-substituted alkyl group containing less than 12 carbon atoms, and

(iii) 0-30% by weight of repeating units derived from at least one acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the ester group contains an unsubstituted alkyl group containing less than 16 carbon atoms; and

(c) is substantially free of fluorine atoms, carboxylic acid groups, carboxylic acid salt groups, sulfonic acid groups, sulfonic acid salt groups, amido groups, pyrrolidino groups and imidazole groups.

8-12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously presented) A thickened oil composition which comprises

(1) an oil, and

(2) uniformly dispersed in the oil as a crystallized solid, an SCC polymer which

(a) consists essentially of

(i) 70-99% by weight of repeating units derived from at least one n-alkyl acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the n-alkyl group contains 16 to 22 carbon atoms,

(ii) 1-30% by weight of repeating units derived from at least one acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the ester group contains a hydroxyl-substituted alkyl group containing less than 12 carbon atoms, and

(iii) 0-29% by weight of repeating units derived from at least one acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the ester group contains an unsubstituted alkyl group containing less than 16 carbon atoms; and

(b) is substantially free of fluorine atoms, carboxylic acid groups, carboxylic acid salt groups, sulfonic acid groups, sulfonic acid salt groups, amido groups, pyrrolidino groups and imidazole groups.

14. (Original) A composition according to Claim 13 wherein the SCC polymer contains 10-30% by weight of the repeating units derived from at least one acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the ester group contains a hydroxyl-substituted alkyl group containing less than 12 carbon atoms.

15. (Previously presented) A thickened oil composition which is at a temperature T_s of 15 to 25 °C, and which comprises

(1) an oil, and

(2) a side chain crystalline (SCC) polymer which

(a) is uniformly dispersed in the oil as a crystallized solid

(b) has a crystalline melting point, T_p , of 43 to 48 °C, and

(c) consists essentially of

(i) 70-99% by weight of repeating units derived from at least one n-alkyl acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the n-alkyl group contains 16 to 22 carbon atoms,

(ii) 1-30% by weight of repeating units derived from at least one acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the ester group contains a hydroxyl-substituted alkyl group containing less than 12 carbon atoms, and

(iii) 0-29% by weight of repeating units derived from at least one acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the ester group contains an unsubstituted alkyl group containing less than 16 carbon atoms; and

(d) is substantially free of fluorine atoms, carboxylic acid groups, carboxylic acid salt groups, sulfonic acid groups, sulfonic acid salt groups, amido groups, pyrrolidino groups and imidazole groups.

16. (Original) A composition according to Claim 15 wherein the SCC polymer contains 15-25 % by weight of the repeating units derived from at least one acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the ester group contains a hydroxyl-substituted alkyl group.

17. (Original) A composition according to Claim 15 wherein the SCC polymer consists essentially of

(i) 70-99% by weight of the repeating units derived from at least one n-alkyl acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the n-alkyl group contains 16 to 22 carbon atoms, and

(ii) 1-30% by weight of the repeating units derived from at least one acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the ester group contains a hydroxyethyl, hydroxypropyl, or hydroxybutyl group.

18. (Original) A composition according to Claim 17 wherein the SCC polymer contains 15-25 % by weight of the repeating units derived from at least one acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the ester group contains a hydroxyl-substituted alkyl group.

19. (Original) A composition according to Claim 15 which contains less than 1% by weight of surface active agents, based on weight of the oil.

20-25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously presented) A composition which is a water-in-oil emulsion or an oil-in-water emulsion and which comprises

(1) water,

(2) an oil, and

(3) uniformly dispersed in the oil as a crystallized solid, a side chain crystalline (SCC) polymer which is substantially free of fluorine atoms, carboxylic acid groups, carboxylic acid salt groups, sulfonic acid groups, sulfonic acid salt groups, amido groups, pyrrolidino groups and imidazole groups.

27. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 26, which is at a temperature T_s , where T_s is from 15 to 25 °C, and wherein the SCC polymer has a crystalline melting point, T_p , which is 10 to 30 °C above T_s .

5 28. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 26 wherein T_p is 40 to 80°C.

29. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 26 wherein T_p is 40 to 50°C.

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30. (Previously presented) A thickened oil composition according to Claim 26 wherein the SCC polymer has a heat of fusion of at least 20 J/g, and an onset-of-melting point T_o such that $T_p - T_o$ is less than 10 °C.

15 31. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 26 which contains 0.5 to 5% by weight of the SCC polymer, based on weight of the composition.

32. (Previously presented) A thickened oil composition which comprises

20 (1) at least one oil selected from the group consisting of hydrogenated polyisobutylene; triglycerides; purcellin oil; isopropyl myristate; butyl myristate; cetyl myristate; isopropyl palmitate; butyl palmitate; ethyl-2-hexyl palmitate; isopropyl stearate; butyl stearate; octyl stearate; hexadecyl stearate; isocetyl stearate; decyl oleate; hexyl laurate; propylene glycol dicaprylate, diisopropyl adipate; animal oils; silicone oils; oleyl alcohol; linoleyl alcohol; linolenyl alcohol; isostearyl alcohol; octyl dodecanol; esters derived from lanolic acid; and acetyl
25 glycerides; and

(2) uniformly dispersed in the oil as a crystallized solid, a side chain crystalline (SCC) polymer which is substantially free of fluorine atoms, carboxylic acid groups, carboxylic acid salt groups, sulfonic acid groups, sulfonic acid salt
30 groups, amido groups, pyrrolidino groups and imidazole groups.

33. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 32, which is at a temperature T_s , where T_s is from 15 to 25 °C, and wherein the SCC polymer has a crystalline melting point, T_p , which is 10 to 30 °C above T_s .

5 34. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 32 wherein T_p is 40 to 50 °C.

35. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 32 wherein T_p is 40 to 80°C.

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36. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 32 wherein the SCC polymer has a heat of fusion of at least 20 J/g, and an onset-of-melting point T_o such that $T_p - T_o$ is less than 10 °C.

15 37-40. (Canceled)

41. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 26 wherein each of the following conditions is fulfilled by the SCC polymer:

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- (1) at most 1% of the carbon atoms are substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
 - (2) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
 - (3) at most 0.5% by weight of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
 - 25 (4) the polymer has an acidity of less than 0.07 meq/g;
 - (5) at most 1 mol% of the repeating units are derived from acrylamide
 - (6) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone;
 - (7) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylimidazole.

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42. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 26 wherein each of the following conditions is fulfilled by the SCC polymer:

- (1) none of the carbon atoms are substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
- (2) none of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- (3) none of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- (4) the polymer has an acidity of less than 0.07 meq/g;
- (5) none of the repeating units are derived from acrylamide;
- (6) none of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone;
- (7) none of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylimidazole.

43. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 32 wherein each of the following conditions is fulfilled by the SCC polymer:

- (1) at most 1% of the carbon atoms are substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
- (2) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- (3) at most 0.5% by weight of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- (4) the polymer has an acidity of less than 0.07 meq/g;
- (5) at most 1 mol% of the repeating units are derived from acrylamide
- (7) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone;
- (7) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylimidazole.

44. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 32 wherein each of the following conditions is fulfilled by the SCC polymer:

- (1) none of the carbon atoms are substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
- (2) none of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;

- (3) none of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- (4) the polymer has an acidity of less than 0.07 meq/g;
- (5) none of the repeating units are derived from acrylamide;
- 5 (6) none of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone;
- (7) none of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylimidazole.

45. (Previously presented) A thickened oil composition which comprises

- (1) an oil, and
- 10 (2) uniformly dispersed in the oil as a crystallized solid, a side chain crystalline (SCC) polymer which consists essentially of
 - (i) 70-99% by weight of repeating units derived from at least one n-alkyl acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the n-alkyl group contains 16 to 50 carbon atoms,
 - 15 (ii) 1-30% by weight of repeating units derived from hydroxyethyl acrylate, and
 - (iii) 0-29% by weight of repeating units derived from at least one acrylate or methacrylate ester in which the ester group contains an unsubstituted alkyl group containing less than 16 carbon atoms.

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46. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 45 wherein the SCC polymer contains 15-25% by weight of the repeating units derived from hydroxyethyl acrylate.

25 47-57. (Canceled)

58. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 26 which contains 0.5 to 5% by weight of the SCC polymer.

30 59-63. (Canceled)

64. (Previously presented) A thickened oil composition which is a lipstick, deodorant, nail varnish, sun cream, protective hand cream, night renewal cream, body milk, body lotion, light facial cream, protective day cream, or moisturizing emulsion, and which comprises

- 5 (1) an oil, and
(2) uniformly dispersed in the oil as a crystallized solid, a side chain crystalline (SCC) polymer which has a crystalline melting point T_p and which is substantially free of fluorine atoms, carboxylic acid groups, carboxylic acid salt groups, sulfonic acid groups, sulfonic acid salt groups, amido groups, pyrrolidino
10 groups and imidazole groups.

65-66. (Canceled)

67. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 64, which is at a
15 temperature T_s , where T_s is from 15 to 25 °C, and wherein the SCC polymer has a crystalline melting point, T_p , which is 10 to 30 °C above T_s .

68. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 64 wherein T_p is 40
to 80 °C.

69. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 64 wherein T_p is 40
to 50 °C.

70. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 64 wherein the
25 SCC polymer has a heat of fusion of at least 20 J/g, and an onset-of-melting point T_o such that $T_p - T_o$ is less than 10 °C.

71. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 64 wherein each of
the following conditions is fulfilled by the SCC polymer:

- 30 (1) at most 1% of the carbon atoms are substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

- (2) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- (3) at most 0.5% by weight of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- 5 (4) the polymer has an acidity of less than 0.07 meq/g;
- (5) at most 1 mol% of the repeating units are derived from acrylamide
- (8) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone;
- (7) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylimidazole.

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72. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 64 wherein each of the following conditions is fulfilled by the SCC polymer:

- (1) none of the carbon atoms are substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
- (2) none of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt
- 15 group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- (3) none of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- (4) the polymer has an acidity of less than 0.07 meq/g;
- (5) none of the repeating units are derived from acrylamide;
- 20 (6) none of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone;
- (9) none of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylimidazole.

73-78. (Canceled)

25 79. (Previously presented) A thickened oil composition which comprises

- (1) an oil, and
- (2) uniformly dispersed in the oil as a crystallized solid, a side chain crystalline (SCC) polymer which
 - 30 (a) is substantially free of fluorine atoms, carboxylic acid groups, carboxylic acid salt groups, sulfonic acid groups, sulfonic acid salt

groups, amido groups, pyrrolidino groups and imidazole groups;
and

(b) contains repeating units containing hydroxyl groups.

5 80. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 79 wherein the SCC polymer contains 5-30% by weight of the repeating units containing hydroxyl groups.

81. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 79 wherein the SCC polymer has a crystalline melting point, T_p , of 40-80°C.

10 82. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 79 wherein the SCC polymer has a heat of fusion of at least 20 J/g and an onset-of-melting point, T_o , such that $(T_p - T_o)$ is less than 10°C.

15 83. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 79 wherein each of the following conditions is fulfilled by the SCC polymer:

(1) at most 1% of the carbon atoms are substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

20 (2) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;

(3) at most 0.5% by weight of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;

(4) the polymer has an acidity of less than 0.07 meq/g;

(5) at most 1 mol% of the repeating units are derived from acrylamide

25 (6) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone;

(7) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylimidazole.

30 84. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 79 wherein each of the following conditions is fulfilled by the SCC polymer:

(1) none of the carbon atoms are substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

- (2) none of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- (3) none of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- 5 (4) the polymer has an acidity of less than 0.07 meq/g;
- (5) none of the repeating units are derived from acrylamide;
- (6) none of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone;
- (7) none of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylimidazole.
- 10 85. (Previously presented) A thickened oil composition which is a pretanning lotion, sunscreen lotion, sun tan lotion, after-sun lotion, makeup remover, hair-treating oil, hairdressing preparation, shampoo, foam bath, bath oil, skin cleanser, skin foundation, perfumed gel, mascara or eye makeup, and which comprises
- (1) an oil, and
- 15 (2) uniformly dispersed in the oil as a crystallized solid, a side chain crystalline (SCC) polymer which has a crystalline melting point T_p and which is substantially free of fluorine atoms, carboxylic acid groups, carboxylic acid salt groups, sulfonic acid groups, sulfonic acid salt groups, amido groups, pyrrolidino groups and imidazole groups.
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86. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 85 wherein the SCC polymer has a crystalline melting point, T_p , of 40-80°C.
87. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 85 wherein the SCC
- 25 polymer has a heat of fusion of at least 20 J/g and an onset-of-melting point, T_o , such that $(T_p - T_o)$ is less than 10°C.
88. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 85 wherein each of the following conditions is fulfilled by the SCC polymer:
- 30 (1) at most 1% of the carbon atoms are substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

- (2) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- (3) at most 0.5% by weight of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- 5 (4) the polymer has an acidity of less than 0.07 meq/g;
- (5) at most 1 mol% of the repeating units are derived from acrylamide
- (6) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone;
- (7) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylimidazole.

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89. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 85 wherein each of the following conditions is fulfilled by the SCC polymer:

- (1) none of the carbon atoms are substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
- (2) none of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- 15 (3) none of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- (4) the polymer has an acidity of less than 0.07 meq/g;
- (5) none of the repeating units are derived from acrylamide;
- 20 (6) none of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone;
- (7) none of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylimidazole.

90. (Currently amended) A composition which comprises

- (1) an oil,
- 25 (2) uniformly dispersed in the oil as a crystallized solid, a side chain crystalline (SCC) polymer which (i) has a crystalline melting point T_p and (ii) is substantially free of fluorine atoms, carboxylic acid groups, carboxylic acid salt groups, sulfonic acid groups, sulfonic acid salt groups, amido groups, pyrrolidino groups and imidazole groups; and

(3) at least one additive selected from the group consisting of sunscreen agents, deodorants, pharmaceuticals and or antiseptic agents.

5 91. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 90 wherein the SCC polymer has a crystalline melting point, T_p , of 40-80°C.

92. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 90 wherein the SCC polymer has a heat of fusion of at least 20 J/g and an onset-of-melting point, T_o , such
10 that $(T_p - T_o)$ is less than 10°C.

93. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 90 wherein each of the following conditions is fulfilled by the SCC polymer:

- 15 (1) at most 1% of the carbon atoms are substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
- (2) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- (3) at most 0.5% by weight of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- 20 (4) the polymer has an acidity of less than 0.07 meq/g;
- (5) at most 1 mol% of the repeating units are derived from acrylamide
- (6) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone;
- (7) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylimidazole.

25 94. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 90 wherein each of the following conditions is fulfilled by the SCC polymer:

- (1) none of the carbon atoms are substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
- (2) none of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt
30 group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;

- (3) none of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;
- (4) the polymer has an acidity of less than 0.07 meq/g;
- (5) none of the repeating units are derived from acrylamide;
- (6) none of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone;
- (7) none of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylimidazole.

95. (Previously presented) A thickened oil composition which comprises

- (1) a silicone oil, and
- (2) uniformly dispersed in the oil as a crystallized solid, a side chain crystalline (SCC) polymer which contains units derived from a monomer containing silicon and which is substantially free of fluorine atoms, carboxylic acid groups, carboxylic acid salt groups, sulfonic acid groups, sulfonic acid salt groups, amido groups, pyrrolidino groups and imidazole groups.

96. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 95 wherein the SCC polymer is a block copolymer containing SCC blocks and polysiloxane blocks.

97. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 95 wherein the SCC polymer has a crystalline melting point, T_p , of 40-80°C.

98. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 95 wherein the SCC polymer has a heat of fusion of at least 20 J/g and an onset-of-melting point, T_o , such that $(T_p - T_o)$ is less than 10°C.

99. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 95 wherein each of the following conditions is fulfilled by the SCC polymer:

- (1) at most 1% of the carbon atoms are substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;
- (2) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;

(3) at most 0.5% by weight of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;

(4) the polymer has an acidity of less than 0.07 meq/g;

(5) at most 1 mol% of the repeating units are derived from acrylamide

5 (6) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units are derived from

N-vinylpyrrolidone;

(7) at most 0.2 mol% of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylimidazole.

100. (Previously presented) A composition according to Claim 95 wherein each of
10 the following conditions is fulfilled by the SCC polymer:

(1) none of the carbon atoms are substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

(2) none of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;

15 (3) none of the repeating units contain a carboxyl group, a carboxyl salt group, a sulfonic acid group, or a sulfonic acid salt group;

(4) the polymer has an acidity of less than 0.07 meq/g;

(5) none of the repeating units are derived from acrylamide;

(6) none of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone;

(7) none of the repeating units are derived from N-vinylimidazole.

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101-111. (Canceled)